

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 GAC-01

AF-10 /139 W

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R 041853 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7321

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 01195

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, UN, CY, CA

SUBJ: UNFICYP

REF S : (A) STATE 057833, (B) OTTAWA 0770

1. POLCONS AND MISOFF MET WITH CANADA MISOFF (NEWLANDS) AND
GOC ADVISERS (RANGER AND BELL) ON 3 APRIL TO DISCUSS POINTS
CITED IN REFTEL (A) CONCERNING POSSIBLE REDUCTIONS IN UNFICYP.
AS IN EARLIER CONVERSATION IN OTTAWA (REFTEL B) CANADIANS
INSISTED THAT THEIR THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT IS INCOMPLETE
AND THEY ARE ONLY ONCE AGAIN BEGINNING TO LOOK AT THE PROBLEM.
NEVERTHELESS IT WAS CLEAR THAT THEY ARE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT
JOINING US AND UK IN APPROACHING OTHER GROUP 1 CONTRIBUTORS AND
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SUBSEQUENTLY APPROACHING SYG ABOUT PERFORMING A STUDY TO
ACCOMPLISH REDUCTIONS.

2. CANADIANS ASKED WHY WE FAVORED GROUP 1 OVER SECURITY COUNCIL AS INITIATORS OF THE REQUEST. WE REPLIED THAT WE WOULD HOPE TO AVOID UNHELPFUL THEOLOGICAL DEBATE ON OVERALL UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN SC FORUM. WE EXPRESSED OPINION THAT MAJOR FINANCIAL AND TROPP CONTRIBUTORS, WHO UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO HELP SYG SOLVE UNFICYP' S FINANCIAL CRISIS, NOW HAVE LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO ASK HIM TO CONDUCT STUDY WITH A VIEW TO ALTERING THE FORCE TO OPERATE WITHIN ANTICIPATED INCOME. CANADIANS EXPRESSED FOLLOWING CONCERNS:

(AL GOC APPARENTLY SEES US APPROACH AS POSING PROBLEMS TO THEIR OVERALL VIEW OF UN PK OPERATIONS AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE DECISION- MAKING ROLE OF SYG IN PK OPERATIONS. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THEY REFERRED TO THEIR PREFERENCE FOR MAINTAINING DISTINCTION BETWEEN " PROCEDURAL" AND " OPERATIONAL" QUESTIONS. REQUESTING SYG TO UNDERTAKE STUDY IS PROCEDURAL; TELLING HIM END RESULT OF STUDY SHALL BE PLAN FOR FORCE REDUCTIONS IS OPERATIONAL.

(B) HOWEVER, UNLESS INTENDED RESULT IS CLEARLY SIGNED THERE IS A DANGER OF GETTING RESULTS UNACCEPTABLE TO ONE OR MORE CONTRIBUTORS; E. G., RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TROOP LEVELS THAT ARE UNMANAGEABLE, UNECONOMICAL, OR IN THE OPINION OF THE CONTRIBUTOR, MANIFESTLY UNSAFE. GOC WOULD BE EMBARRASSED IF FACED WITH UNACCEPTABLE RECOMMENDATIONS AFTER HAVING BEEN OUT IN FRONT ON REQUEST FOR STUDY.

(C) WHAT IF ONLY A FRACTION OF GROUP 1 COUNTRIES AGREED TO JOIN US AND ADDRESS REQUEST TO SYG, WOULD US WANT TO GO TO SYG WITH ONLY 2 OR 3 LIKE- MINDED STATES?

3. POLCOUNS INDICATED US RESPECT FOR CANADIAN EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT MILITARY OPERATIONS IN CYPRUS AND WOULD WISH CONSIDER ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS GOC HAS ON THIS TOPIC. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO US THAT UNFICYP IS NOT GOING TO VOLUNTARILY RECOMMEND ITS OWN REDUCTION AND A STUDY TO ACHIEVE THIS APPEARS TO US TO BE A NECESSITY BECAUSE OF FINANCES. THE 1969 STUDY, WHICH LED TO REDUCTION, COULD BE UPDATED WITH END IN VIEW OF FURTHER REDUCING THE FORCE TO FIT THE BUDGET, CONFIDENTIAL

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POSSIBLY WITHOUT CHANGING THE MANDATE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE CANADIANS CONCERNED ABOUT OPEN- ENDED UNFICYP CONVERSATION INDICATED GOC DEFINITELY UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT GETTING OUT IN FRONT ON QUESTION OF TROOP REDUCTION. CANADIANS (NEWLANDS IN PARTICULAR) ALSO REVEALED RATHER CLEARLY THAT THEIR SENSITIVITY ABOUT UNFICYP CONDITIONED IN PART BY CANADIAN EXPERIENCE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA AND BY THEIR DIFFERENCES WITH US ON UN PEACEKEEPING ISSUE.

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